

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

For Immediate Release

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Contact Person

Meredith Duchemin
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Katrius Vance, 33, of Beloit, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 63 months in federal prison, without the possibility of parole, for possessing a firearm as a convicted felon. Vance pleaded guilty to the charge on November 15, 2006.

On August 23, 2006, Beloit Police located Vance in Horace White Park in Beloit, while investigating a domestic incident. When confronted by police, Vance, who was carrying a loaded .25 caliber pistol in his pocket, tried to conceal his crime by dropping the gun on the ground and walking away. Officers eventually recovered the gun a short distance from where they apprehended Vance, and Vance admitted the gun was his. Vance has a 1996 felony conviction for possession of cocaine/cocaine base, and a 2004 felony conviction for possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

The charge against Vance was the result of an investigation conducted by the Beloit Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith Duchemin.

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